

THE WMUR GRANITE STATE POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

NH APPROVES OF AFGHANISTAN SURGE

February 16, 2010

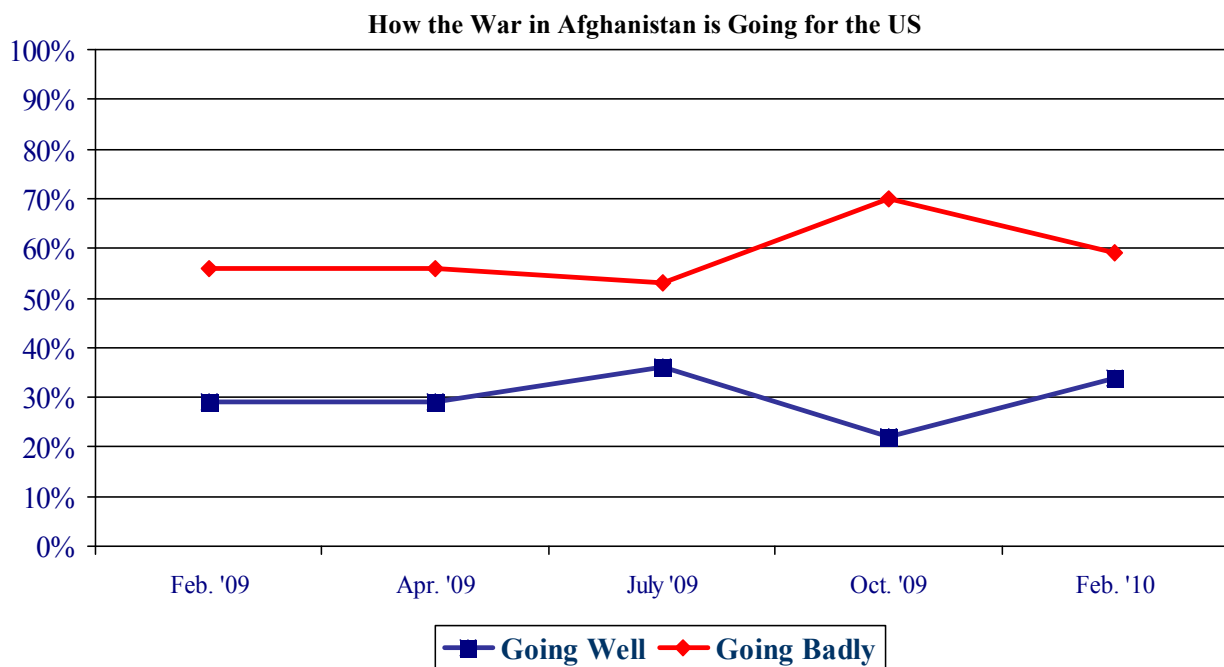
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UNH Survey Center
www.unh.edu/survey-center
603/862-2226

DURHAM, NH – New Hampshire adults believe the war in Afghanistan is going badly for the United States, but 3 in 5 support the recent troop increases.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR Granite State Poll**,* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between January 27 and February 3, 2010. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.4 percent.

The War in Afghanistan

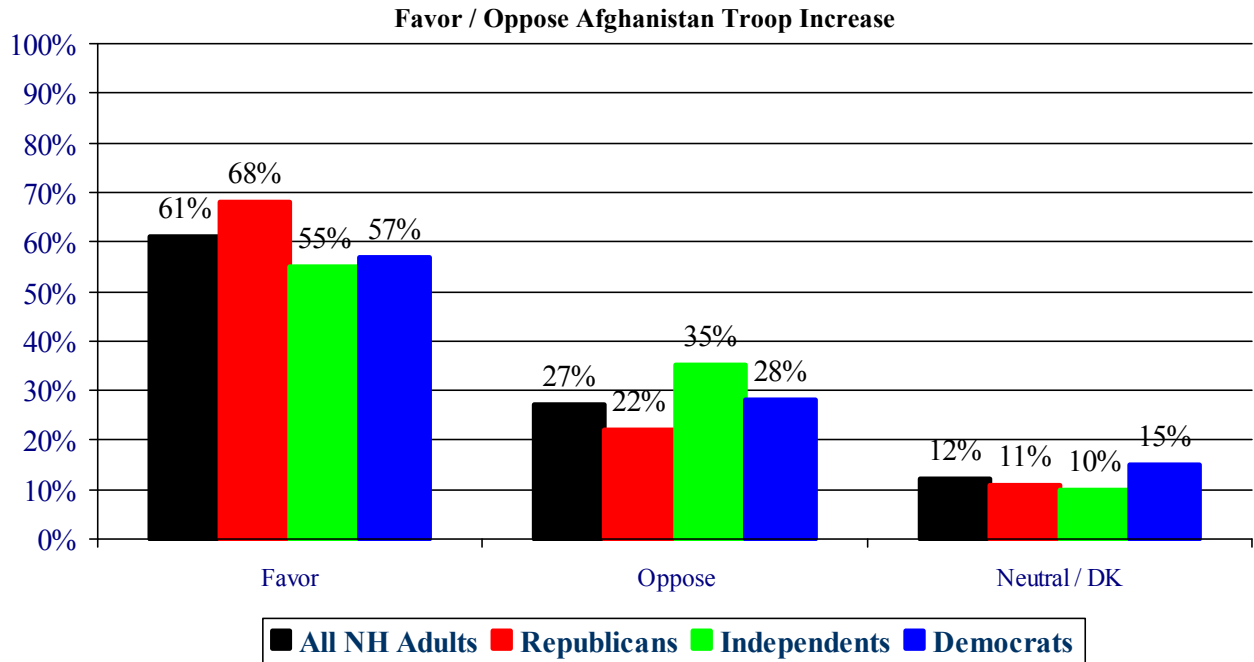
The Obama Administration has been ramping up the number of American troops in Afghanistan in response to deteriorating security conditions there. This action appears to have somewhat reduced the concerns of New Hampshire residents about the direction the war in Afghanistan is taking, but a majority still believe the war is going badly for the US. Currently, 59% of New Hampshire adults think the war in Afghanistan is going badly for the US, 34% think it is going well, and 7% don't know. The percentage of Granite Staters who think the war in Afghanistan is going badly for the US reached a peak in October when 70% thought it was going badly. The pessimism is bipartisan – 59% of Democrats, 57% of Independents, and 60% of Republicans think the war in Afghanistan is going badly for the US.



* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the Granite State Poll*, sponsored by WMUR-TV, and conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

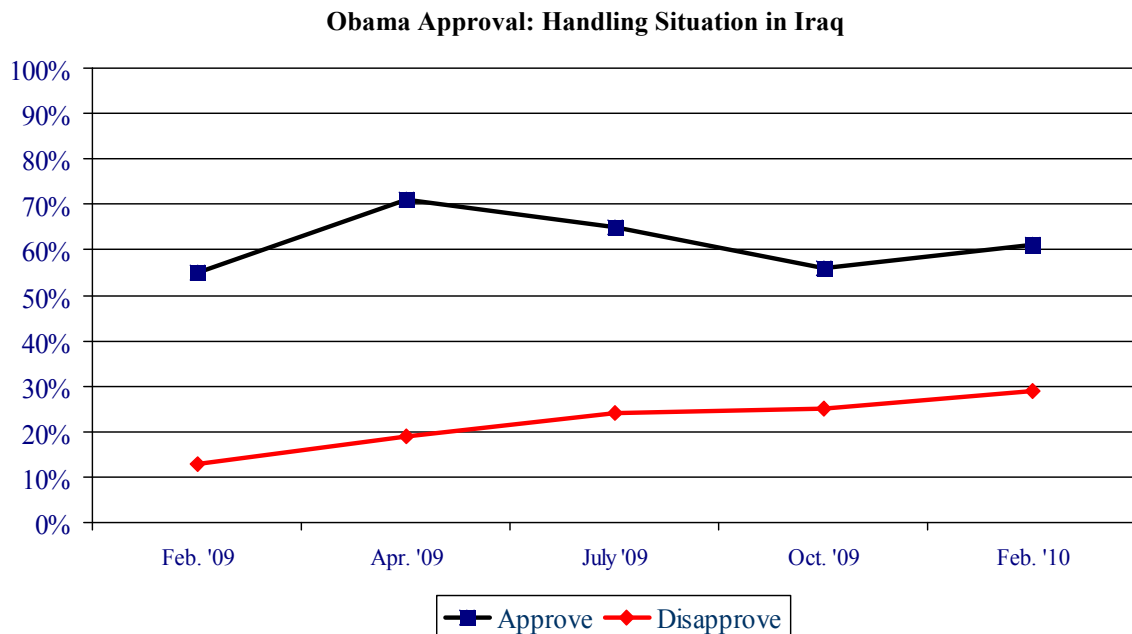
Increase US Troops in Afghanistan

The Obama administration announced in early December that it was increasing US troop levels in Afghanistan by 30,000 and applying tactics similar to the surge used in Iraq to improve the security situation there. Most Granite Staters support this policy – 61% favor the recent troop increase, 27% oppose, and 12% are unsure. Republicans are most likely to support the troop increase (68% favor the increase) but Democrats (57%) and Independents (55%) approve as well.

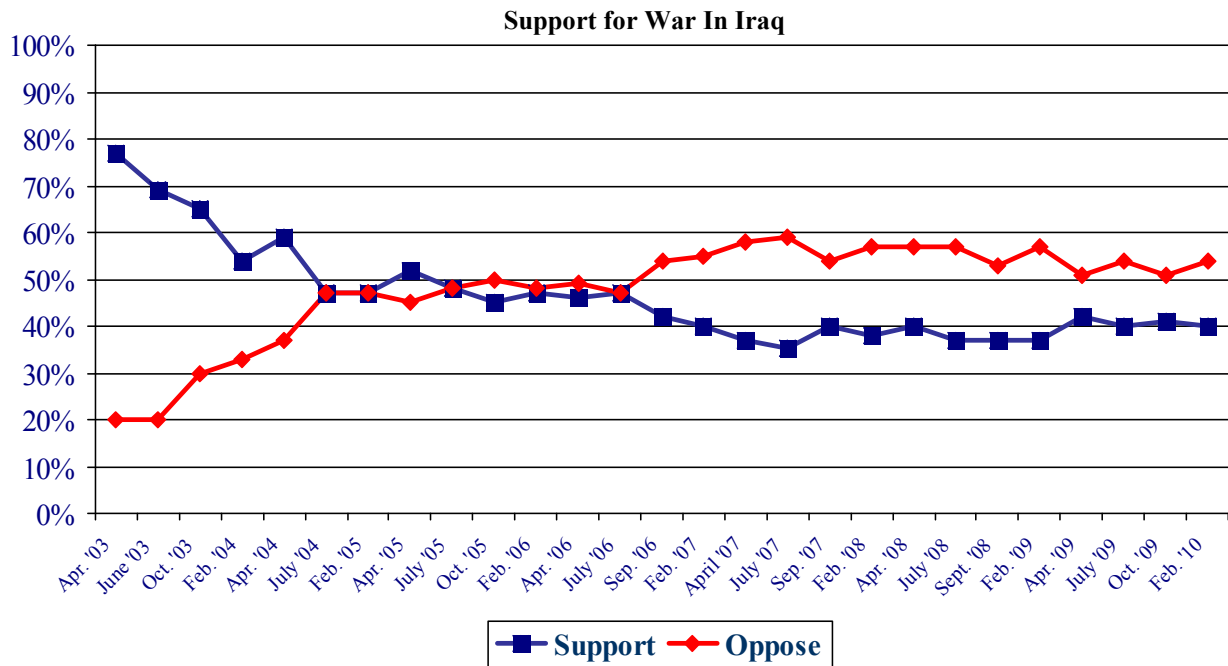


Presidential Approval on Iraq

Approval for President Obama's handling of the situation in Iraq has stabilized. In the most recent Granite State Poll, 61% of New Hampshire adults approve of his handling of Iraq, 29% disapprove, and 9% are neutral. Obama continues hold onto majority support from Democrats and political independents – 78% and 66%, respectively – but Republicans tend to disapprove of his actions in Iraq, with 40% approving and 45% disapproving.

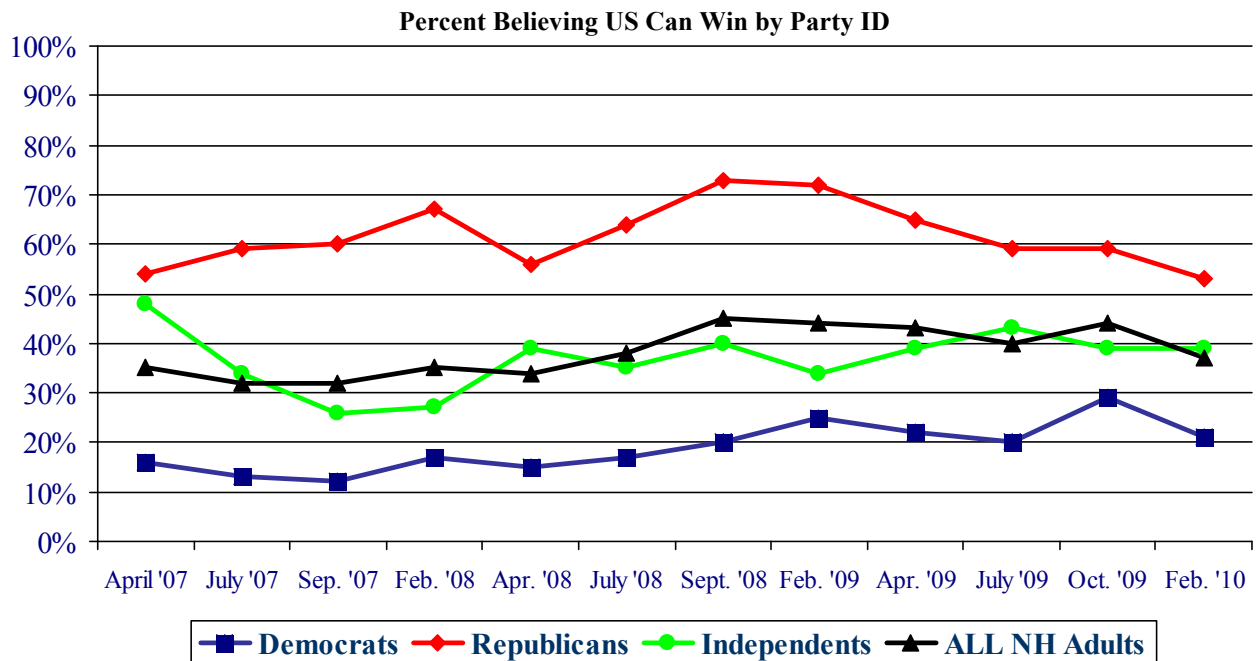


Most New Hampshire residents continue to believe that going to war in Iraq was a bad idea. Currently, 40% of Granite Staters support having gone to war with Iraq, 54% oppose it, and 6% are neutral. The percentage of New Hampshire adults who support or oppose the US having gone to war in Iraq has remained relatively stable for the past 3 years.



Can the US Win?

Most New Hampshire residents do not believe the US can win the war in Iraq. Currently, 37% of New Hampshire adults think the US can win the Iraq War, 49% think we cannot win, and 14% don't know. Republicans continue to be the most optimistic about the US prospects of victory in Iraq, with 53% believing the US can win, although Republican optimism has been declining since Obama took office. Democrats continue to be the least optimistic with only 21% thinking winning the Iraq war is possible.



Granite State Poll Methodology

These findings are based on the latest WMUR Granite State Poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Five hundred (500) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by telephone between January 27 and February 4, 2010. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-4.4 percent.

The data have been weighted to adjust for numbers of adults and telephone lines within households, respondent sex, and region of the state. In addition to potential sampling error, all surveys have other potential sources of non-sampling error including question order effects, question wording effects, and non-response.

Presidential Approval - Handling of Situation in Iraq

“Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Obama is handling the situation with Iraq?”

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Feb. '10	61%	9%	29%	(492)
Oct. '09	56%	19%	25%	(496)
July '09	65%	10%	24%	(554)
Apr. '09	71%	10%	19%	(498)
Feb. '09	55%	32%	13%	(609)

Support for War in Iraq

“Do you support or oppose the United States having gone to war with Iraq?”

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Feb. '10	40%	6%	54%	(491)
Oct. '09	41%	8%	51%	(499)
July '09	40%	6%	54%	(553)
Apr. '09	42%	7%	51%	(502)
Feb. '09	37%	5%	57%	(616)
Sept. '09	37%	7%	53%	(544)
July '08	37%	6%	57%	(511)
Apr. '08	40%	3%	57%	(498)
Feb. '08	38%	5%	57%	(548)
Sep. '07	40%	6%	54%	(506)
July '07	35%	6%	59%	(516)
Apr. '07	37%	5%	58%	(510)
Feb. '07	40%	5%	55%	(525)
Sept. '06	42%	4%	54%	(510)
July '06	47%	6%	47%	(500)
Apr. '06	46%	5%	49%	(496)
Feb. '06	47%	5%	48%	(500)
Oct. '05	45%	4%	50%	(502)
July '05	48%	5%	48%	(493)
Apr. '05	52%	3%	45%	(489)
Feb. '05	47%	6%	47%	(537)
July '04	47%	6%	47%	(498)
Apr. '04	59%	4%	37%	(536)
Feb. '04	54%	3%	33%	(509)
Oct. '03	65%	5%	30%	(496)
June '03	69%	4%	20%	(513)
Apr. '03	77%	4%	20%	(506)

Can US Win in Iraq?

“Do you think the United States can win or cannot win the war in Iraq?”

	<u>Can Win</u>	<u>Cannot Win</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Feb. '10	37%	49%	14%	(489)
Oct. '09	44%	43%	13%	(491)
July '09	40%	46%	15%	(549)
Apr. '09	43%	45%	12%	(486)
Feb. '09	44%	41%	15%	(597)
Sept. '08	45%	41%	14%	(532)
July '08	38%	52%	10%	(511)
Apr. '08	34%	56%	10%	(495)
Feb. '08	35%	53%	12%	(544)
Sep. '07	32%	55%	13%	(503)
July '07	32%	57%	11%	(504)
Apr. '07	35%	55%	10%	(512)

How is the War in Afghanistan Going for the U.S.?

“Now, let’s talk about the war in Afghanistan. What is your impression of how the war in Afghanistan is going for the United States right now? Would you say it is going very well ... somewhat well ... somewhat badly ... or very badly?”

	<u>Going Well</u>	<u>Going Badly</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Feb. '10	34%	59%	7%	(494)
Oct. '09	22%	70%	8%	(500)
July '09	36%	53%	12%	(556)
Apr. '09	29%	56%	15%	(498)
Feb. '09	29%	56%	14%	(619)

Favor / Oppose Additional Troops to Afghanistan?

"Regardless of how you feel about the war in general, do you favor or oppose President Obama's plan to send about 30,000 more U.S. troops to Afghanistan in an attempt to stabilize the situation there, or don't you have an opinion?"

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>	<u>(N)</u>
Feb. '10	61%	27%	12%	(494)

Presidential Approval Rating - Iraq

STATEWIDE	<u>Approve</u> 61%	<u>Neutral</u> 9%	<u>Disapprove</u> 29%	<u>(N=)</u> 492
Registered Democrat	75%	5%	20%	127
Registered Undeclared	66%	7%	27%	203
Registered Republican	39%	18%	43%	121
Democrat	78%	6%	16%	206
Independent	66%	6%	28%	87
Republican	40%	15%	45%	196
Liberal	78%	5%	17%	99
Moderate	71%	7%	21%	215
Conservative	35%	14%	51%	153
McCain/Palin Voter	41%	14%	44%	191
Obama/Biden Voter	79%	5%	16%	234
Other	60%	15%	25%	20
Did Not Vote in 2008	57%	8%	34%	36
Union household	71%	3%	26%	61
Non-union	60%	10%	30%	427
10 yrs or less in NH	57%	12%	31%	105
11 to 20 years	65%	9%	26%	78
More than 20 years	61%	9%	30%	302
18 to 34	54%	5%	42%	50
35 to 49	54%	12%	34%	144
50 to 64	68%	9%	23%	198
65 and over	63%	8%	29%	95
Male	60%	8%	32%	236
Female	62%	11%	27%	256
High school or less	56%	9%	35%	110
Some college	57%	13%	30%	100
College graduate	59%	10%	31%	167
Post-graduate	71%	7%	22%	114
Less than \$30K	50%	12%	38%	36
\$30K to \$60K	62%	6%	32%	85
\$60K to \$75K	56%	13%	30%	48
\$75K to \$100K	75%	8%	17%	52
\$100K or more	61%	10%	29%	113
Married	65%	9%	26%	340
Divorced/separated	48%	14%	38%	88
Never married	56%	4%	39%	61
Protestant	57%	12%	31%	185
Catholic	60%	7%	33%	168
Other	69%	8%	23%	127
Attend services 1 or more/week	54%	15%	31%	126
1-2 times a month	63%	9%	27%	62
Less often	62%	7%	31%	151
Never	65%	7%	28%	145
North Country	64%	17%	19%	37
Central / Lakes	66%	4%	30%	77
Connecticut Valley	58%	12%	30%	76
Mass Border	54%	11%	35%	135
Seacoast	72%	6%	23%	83
Manchester Area	59%	10%	31%	85
First Cong. Dist	62%	7%	31%	249
Second Cong. Dist	60%	12%	28%	243

Support / Oppose US War in Iraq

STATEWIDE	<u>Support</u> 40%	<u>Neutral</u> 6%	<u>Oppose</u> 54%	<u>(N=)</u> 491
Registered Democrat	18%	1%	81%	127
Registered Undeclared	41%	7%	53%	203
Registered Republican	68%	9%	24%	119
Democrat	18%	3%	79%	208
Independent	36%	10%	54%	87
Republican	67%	7%	26%	192
Liberal	15%	3%	82%	101
Moderate	35%	6%	60%	213
Conservative	65%	6%	30%	151
McCain/Palin Voter	65%	10%	25%	190
Obama/Biden Voter	22%	3%	75%	234
Other	33%	0%	67%	20
Did Not Vote in 2008	25%	7%	68%	36
Union household	35%	0%	65%	59
Non-union	41%	7%	53%	428
10 yrs or less in NH	38%	6%	56%	104
11 to 20 years	39%	4%	57%	76
More than 20 years	41%	6%	53%	304
18 to 34	38%	11%	50%	49
35 to 49	44%	8%	49%	143
50 to 64	37%	3%	60%	198
65 and over	41%	5%	54%	96
Male	43%	4%	53%	239
Female	37%	7%	56%	252
High school or less	44%	3%	52%	111
Some college	44%	6%	50%	100
College graduate	40%	9%	51%	166
Post-graduate	32%	4%	64%	112
Less than \$30K	52%	0%	48%	36
\$30K to \$60K	45%	7%	48%	86
\$60K to \$75K	28%	0%	72%	48
\$75K to \$100K	37%	11%	52%	51
\$100K or more	39%	8%	53%	110
Married	40%	6%	54%	340
Divorced/separated	41%	4%	54%	89
Never married	39%	9%	52%	58
Protestant	49%	7%	44%	180
Catholic	43%	7%	51%	169
Other	25%	3%	72%	130
Attend services 1 or more/week	47%	8%	45%	125
1-2 times a month	42%	5%	52%	61
Less often	38%	3%	59%	151
Never	35%	7%	58%	145
North Country	36%	5%	59%	37
Central / Lakes	44%	4%	53%	76
Connecticut Valley	29%	5%	66%	76
Mass Border	44%	7%	49%	134
Seacoast	41%	9%	50%	83
Manchester Area	40%	4%	56%	85
First Cong. Dist	45%	6%	49%	246
Second Cong. Dist	35%	6%	60%	244

Can US Win War in Iraq?

	Can <u>Win</u> 37%	Cannot <u>Win</u> 49%	Don't <u>Know</u> 14%	(N=) 489
STATEWIDE				
Registered Democrat	18%	62%	21%	126
Registered Undeclared	37%	50%	13%	201
Registered Republican	55%	37%	8%	119
Democrat	21%	60%	20%	205
Independent	39%	58%	3%	87
Republican	53%	34%	13%	193
Liberal	14%	66%	20%	98
Moderate	31%	54%	15%	214
Conservative	57%	36%	6%	152
McCain/Palin Voter	54%	34%	11%	188
Obama/Biden Voter	25%	58%	17%	232
Other	28%	72%	0%	20
Did Not Vote in 2008	38%	50%	12%	37
Union household	40%	46%	14%	62
Non-union	37%	49%	14%	424
10 yrs or less in NH	40%	47%	13%	106
11 to 20 years	36%	51%	13%	76
More than 20 years	36%	50%	14%	300
18 to 34	50%	31%	19%	50
35 to 49	40%	50%	10%	143
50 to 64	33%	55%	13%	197
65 and over	37%	43%	21%	95
Male	41%	49%	11%	236
Female	34%	49%	17%	254
High school or less	35%	53%	12%	110
Some college	41%	47%	13%	99
College graduate	36%	50%	14%	166
Post-graduate	37%	45%	17%	112
Less than \$30K	44%	49%	8%	37
\$30K to \$60K	39%	50%	11%	85
\$60K to \$75K	32%	48%	20%	48
\$75K to \$100K	46%	48%	6%	52
\$100K or more	37%	48%	15%	112
Married	37%	51%	13%	338
Divorced/separated	34%	47%	19%	88
Never married	44%	45%	10%	59
Protestant	45%	37%	18%	183
Catholic	39%	51%	10%	167
Other	26%	62%	12%	127
Attend services 1 or more/week	47%	40%	13%	127
1-2 times a month	36%	57%	7%	61
Less often	38%	43%	19%	151
Never	29%	59%	11%	144
North Country	30%	55%	15%	37
Central / Lakes	37%	53%	10%	75
Connecticut Valley	28%	52%	20%	74
Mass Border	43%	45%	12%	136
Seacoast	40%	42%	18%	82
Manchester Area	36%	54%	10%	85
First Cong. Dist	38%	48%	14%	246
Second Cong. Dist	36%	50%	14%	243

How is the War in Afghanistan going for the US?

STATEWIDE	<u>Well</u> 34%	<u>Badly</u> 59%	<u>Don't Know</u> 7%	(N=) 494
Registered Democrat	29%	61%	10%	128
Registered Undeclared	36%	60%	4%	201
Registered Republican	39%	56%	5%	121
Democrat	33%	59%	8%	209
Independent	40%	57%	3%	86
Republican	33%	60%	6%	194
Liberal	31%	60%	9%	101
Moderate	33%	60%	7%	214
Conservative	38%	57%	5%	152
McCain/Palin Voter	37%	59%	4%	189
Obama/Biden Voter	33%	59%	8%	235
Other	41%	54%	6%	20
Did Not Vote in 2008	28%	59%	13%	37
Union household	47%	44%	9%	62
Non-union	32%	61%	7%	429
10 yrs or less in NH	35%	57%	8%	108
11 to 20 years	27%	66%	7%	78
More than 20 years	36%	58%	7%	302
18 to 34	29%	60%	11%	51
35 to 49	38%	57%	5%	142
50 to 64	33%	60%	7%	199
65 and over	35%	57%	8%	97
Male	35%	60%	5%	237
Female	34%	57%	8%	257
High school or less	43%	51%	7%	111
Some college	34%	61%	5%	100
College graduate	31%	63%	7%	169
Post-graduate	32%	59%	9%	112
Less than \$30K	33%	62%	5%	36
\$30K to \$60K	34%	60%	6%	86
\$60K to \$75K	26%	58%	15%	48
\$75K to \$100K	54%	42%	4%	52
\$100K or more	38%	58%	4%	112
Married	35%	57%	8%	340
Divorced/separated	33%	62%	5%	89
Never married	32%	65%	3%	61
Protestant	40%	53%	6%	185
Catholic	35%	60%	5%	167
Other	25%	66%	9%	130
Attend services 1 or more/week	41%	53%	6%	129
1-2 times a month	22%	73%	5%	62
Less often	36%	55%	9%	150
Never	32%	61%	7%	145
North Country	34%	56%	10%	37
Central / Lakes	39%	58%	4%	75
Connecticut Valley	37%	56%	6%	76
Mass Border	27%	64%	9%	137
Seacoast	35%	60%	5%	83
Manchester Area	38%	53%	9%	85
First Cong. Dist	36%	59%	6%	249
Second Cong. Dist	33%	59%	8%	245

Favor / Oppose Additional Troops to Afghanistan?

	<u>Favor</u> 61%	<u>Oppose</u> 27%	<u>Neutral / Don't Know</u> 12%	<u>(N=)</u> 494
STATEWIDE				
Registered Democrat	55%	30%	15%	127
Registered Undeclared	63%	29%	8%	202
Registered Republican	68%	18%	14%	121
Democrat	57%	28%	15%	208
Independent	55%	35%	10%	87
Republican	68%	22%	11%	195
Liberal	51%	33%	16%	100
Moderate	66%	23%	10%	215
Conservative	61%	27%	12%	152
McCain/Palin Voter	67%	21%	11%	191
Obama/Biden Voter	60%	29%	11%	234
Other	46%	35%	18%	20
Did Not Vote in 2008	47%	39%	14%	37
Union household	75%	18%	7%	61
Non-union	59%	28%	13%	430
10 yrs or less in NH	64%	24%	12%	108
11 to 20 years	62%	24%	14%	77
More than 20 years	59%	29%	12%	303
18 to 34	54%	28%	18%	51
35 to 49	63%	23%	14%	143
50 to 64	63%	29%	8%	198
65 and over	58%	27%	14%	97
Male	66%	26%	8%	237
Female	56%	28%	16%	257
High school or less	51%	35%	13%	111
Some college	63%	27%	11%	100
College graduate	61%	24%	15%	169
Post-graduate	68%	23%	9%	113
Less than \$30K	49%	29%	22%	37
\$30K to \$60K	63%	23%	14%	85
\$60K to \$75K	57%	27%	16%	48
\$75K to \$100K	63%	32%	5%	52
\$100K or more	71%	22%	7%	112
Married	63%	25%	12%	340
Divorced/separated	55%	32%	14%	89
Never married	56%	31%	13%	61
Protestant	66%	20%	14%	185
Catholic	63%	27%	10%	169
Other	51%	37%	12%	129
Attend services 1 or more/week	67%	15%	18%	128
1-2 times a month	61%	35%	4%	62
Less often	62%	27%	10%	153
Never	54%	34%	11%	144
North Country	57%	28%	15%	36
Central / Lakes	60%	26%	13%	78
Connecticut Valley	55%	31%	13%	76
Mass Border	60%	27%	14%	136
Seacoast	65%	29%	7%	83
Manchester Area	65%	22%	12%	85
First Cong. Dist	66%	25%	9%	248
Second Cong. Dist	56%	29%	15%	246